

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) In combination for use in a rotatable hair brush,

a pair of oppositely disposed supports,

a plurality of dividers supported by at least one of the oppositely disposed

5 supports, the dividers being spaced from one another in an annular configuration to define a central opening,

a core disposed in the central opening and supported at its opposite ends by the supports,

there being a plurality of series of openings in the core, the openings in

10 each series being spaced annularly from the openings in the other series,

bristles disposed in the openings in the core and having characteristics to brush the user's hair during the rotation of the core, and

a motor operatively coupled to the core to rotate the core wherein

the brush has a handle and wherein

15 the handle is smoothly cratered relative to the brush at the end adjacent to the handle to provide for a brushing of the hair, during the rotation of the core, without entangling the hair.

2. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 1 wherein

the motor rotates the core and the dividers and wherein

20 the dividers about the core at spaced [~~portions~~] positions in the annular configurations on the core.

3. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 1 wherein

a support member is mounted on the dividers and is provided with a configuration producing a close fit with the dividers and with a smooth concave configuration in between the dividers and wherein

5 end caps are disposed at the opposite ends of the core and are provided with a configuration corresponding to that of the support member and wherein

the support member and the end caps are configured to prevent the hair being brush from becoming entangled in the brush as the brush rotates

10 the brush has a handle and wherein the handle is smoothly cratered at the end of the handle adjacent to the core to provide for a brushing of the hair, during the rotation of the core, without entangling the hair.

4. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 1 wherein

a first switch is disposed in the handle and is provided with three (3) different positions and wherein

15 the switch is operative in the first position to prevent the core from rotating and is operative in the second position to provide for a rotation of the core at a first speed and is operative in the third position to provide for a rotation of the core at a second speed different from the first speed.

5. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 1 wherein
a switch is disposed in the handle and is provided with a first position to
obtain a rotation of the core in a first direction and is provided with a second position to
obtain a rotation of the core in a second direction different from the first direction.

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6. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 1 wherein
a support member is mounted on the dividers and is provided with a
configuration producing a close fit with the dividers and with a smooth concave
configuration between the dividers and wherein

10 end caps are disposed at the opposite ends of the core and are provided with
a configuration corresponding to that of the support member and wherein

the support member and the end caps are configured to prevent the hair
being brushed from becoming entangled in the brush as the brush rotates.

the brush has a handle and wherein the handle is smoothly cratered at the
15 end of the handle adjacent to the core to provide for a brushing of the hair, without
entangling the hair, during the rotation of the core and wherein

a first switch is disposed in the handle and is operative in three (3) positions
and wherein

the switch is operative in the first position to prevent the core from rotating
20 and is operative in the second position to provide for a rotation of the core at a first speed
and is operative in the third position to provide for a rotation of the core at a second speed
different from the first speed and wherein

a second switch is disposed in the handle and is provided with a first position to obtain a rotation of the core in a first direction and is provided with a second position to obtain a rotation of the core in a second direction different from the first direction.

5 7. (Currently amended) In a combination for use in a rotatable hair brush,
a rotatable core, there being holes disposed at spaced positions in the core,
bristles disposed in the holes in the core to brush the user's hair upon a
rotation of the core,

a detent at one of the ends of the core,

10 a support,
a plurality of dividers extending from the support in a co-operative
relationship with the core at displaced positions around the peripheral surface of the core,
the support having a detent in a mating relationship with the core detent to
retain the dividers and the core in a fixed relationship[[,]]

15 a handle at one end of the core,
the portion of the handle adjacent to the core and the dividers being
provided with a smooth cratered configuration to prevent the user's hair from being
entangled in the brush as the brush rotates.

8. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 7,
20 the mating relationship between the support and the rotatable core
providing for the rotation of the dividers with the rotatable core[[and]]

the smooth cratered configuration of the handle being concave and forming a seamless relationship with the core to prevent hair from being entangled in the brush as the brush rotates.

9. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 7 wherein

5 the hair brush includes a handle and wherein

the hair brush is shaped relative to the handle at the end adjacent to the handle to prevent the user's hair from being entangled in the handle as the core and the dividers rotate.

10. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 7 wherein

10 the bristles have a distal end and wherein

the dividers extend in a direction toward the distal end of the bristles and have a curved surface at the distal end wherein

the dividers extend through an axial distance corresponding to the length of the core.

15 11. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 10 wherein

the core is substantially cylindrical and wherein

the dividers are substantially cylindrical and wherein

the dividers have axes and wherein

the core has an axis and wherein

20 the axes of the core and the dividers are substantially parallel.

12. (Previously presented) In combination as set forth in claim 8 wherein

the hair brush includes a handle and wherein

the hair brush is shaped relative to the handle at the end adjacent to the handle to prevent the user's hair from being entangled in the handle as the core and the

5 dividers rotate and wherein

the bristles have a distal end and wherein

the dividers extend in a direction toward the distal end of the bristles and have a curved surface at the distal end and wherein

10 the dividers extend through a distance corresponding to the length of the core and wherein

the core is substantially cylindrical and wherein

the dividers are substantially cylindrical and wherein

the dividers have axes and wherein

the core has an axis and wherein

15 the axes of the core and the dividers are substantially parallel.

13. (Currently amended) In combination for use in a rotatable hair brush,

a plurality of dividers extending in a first direction and spaced from one another in an annular direction to define a central opening extending in the first direction,

supports disposed at the opposite ends of the dividers for holding the

20 dividers in a fixed relationship defining the central opening,

a core fixedly positioned in the central opening by the supports,

there being series of openings in the core, the openings in each series being spaced in the annular direction from the openings in the other series,

bristles disposed in the openings in the core for brushing the user's hair when the brush rotates,

5 the dividers being positioned relative to the core and the bristles for pushing the hair outwardly in a direction away from the central opening as the core and the dividers rotate, thereby preventing the hair brush from entangling the user's hair[.]

a handle disposed at one end of the brush,

10 the handle being concave at the position adjacent to the core and forming a seamless relationship with the core to prevent hair from becoming entangled in the brush as the brush rotates.

14. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 13,

a handle included in the hair brush and shaped at the end adjacent to the core and to the dividers for directing the user's hair away from the core to prevent the user's hair from being entangled by the brush during the rotation of the brush.

15. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 13 including,

a handle included in the brush at one end of the brush, and

the support at the end of the brush displaced from the handle constituting an end cap having a peripheral configuration to prevent the user's hair from becoming entangled in the brush during the rotation of the brush[.]

the handle being smoothly cratured relative to the brush at the end adjacent to the brush to provide for the brushing of the hair, during the rotation of the core and the divider, without entangling the hair in the brush.

16. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 14 wherein
5 a battery is disposed in the handle and wherein
a motor is disposed in the handle and is electrically coupled to the battery to rotate the core and the dividers.

17. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 15 wherein
the end cap overlaps the dividers to provide a smooth surface around its
10 periphery for preventing the user's hair from becoming entangled as the core and the dividers rotate.

18. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 17 wherein
the peripheral configuration of the end cap is provided with a smooth
concave configuration in the annular direction between each adjacent pair of dividers to
15 prevent the user's hair from becoming entangled in the brush as the hair brush rotates.

19. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 18 wherein
a handle is included in the hair brush and is shaped at the end adjacent to
the core and to the dividers for directing the user's hair away from the core and the
dividers to prevent the user's hair from being entangled by the brush during the rotation
20 of the brush and wherein

a battery is disposed in the handle and wherein

a motor is disposed in the handle and is electrically coupled to the battery to rotate the core and the dividers.

20. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 19 wherein the handle is provided with a periphery and wherein

5 a first switch is disposed on the handle periphery and is operative in a first relationship to provide for the operation of the motor at a first speed and is operative in a second relationship to provide for the operation of the motor at a second speed different from the first speed and wherein

10 a second switch is disposed on the handle periphery and is operative in a first relationship to provide for an operation of the motor in a first direction and is operative in a second relationship to provide for an operation of the motor in a second direction opposite to the first direction.

21. (Previously presented) In a combination for use in a rotatable hair brush, a core having a periphery,

15 there being pluralities of holes in the core, each of the plurality of holes being at a spaced position around the core periphery relative to the positions of the other pluralities of the holes,

bristles in the holes in each of the of the pluralities,

20 a plurality of dividers disposed at spaced positions around the core periphery at positions extending radially outwardly from the core, each of the dividers being disposed between an adjacent pair of pluralities of bristles in the core,

the core and the dividers being disposed in a fixed relationship to one another at opposite ends of the core and the dividers,

a handle at one of the opposite ends of the core and the dividers, and

an end cap disposed at the other of the opposite ends of the core and the dividers, the end cap being provided with a peripheral configuration to prevent the user's hair from being entangled in the rotatable hair brush as the hair brush rotates.

22. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 21 wherein

the end cap disposed on the core and the dividers is provided with a close fit on the dividers and is provided with a concave configuration between each adjacent pair of the dividers to prevent the user's hair from being entangled during the rotation of the hair brush.

23. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 22 wherein

the concave configuration of the end cap extends between each pair of the dividers and wherein

the peripheral configuration of the end cap at each of the dividers corresponds to the peripheral configuration of the dividers and provide a smooth continuity with the concave configuration of the end cap at the positions between adjacent pairs of the dividers.

24. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 21 wherein

an end cap is provided adjacent the handle and wherein

the handle and the end cap adjacent the handle are provided with a smooth composite configuration to prevent the user's hair from being entangled on the hair brush when the hair brush is rotating.

25. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 24 wherein

5 the handle and the end cap adjacent the handle are provided with a smooth concave composite configuration to prevent the user's hair from being entangled on the hair brush when the hair brush is rotating.

26. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 25 wherein

10 the concave configuration of the end cap extends between each pair of the dividers and wherein

the peripheral configuration of the end cap at each of the dividers corresponds to the configuration of the dividers and wherein

~~an end cap is provided adjacent the handle and wherein~~

15 the handle and the end cap adjacent the handle are provided with a smooth composite configuration to prevent the user's hair from being entangled when the hair brush is rotating.

27. (Currently amended) In a combination for use in a rotatable hair brush,

a core having a periphery,

20 there being pluralities of holes in the core, each of the pluralities of holes being at a spaced position around the core periphery relative to the other pluralities of the holes,

bristles in the holes in each of the pluralities,

a plurality of dividers disposed at spaced positions around the core periphery at positions extending outwardly from the core, each of the dividers being disposed between adjacent pairs of pluralities of bristles in the core,

the core and the dividers being disposed in a fixed relationship to one
5 another at oppose ends of the core and the dividers,

a handle at one of the opposite ends of the core and the dividers, and
an end cap adjacent the handle,

the handle and the end cap adjacent the handle being provided with a
smooth composite configuration to prevent the user's hair from being entangled when the
10 hair brush rotates.

28. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 27 wherein
the handle and the adjacent end cap are provided with a smooth concave
composite configuration to prevent the user's hair from being entangled when the hair
brush is rotating.

15 29. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 28 wherein
the smooth concave composite configuration of the handle and the adjacent
end cap is seamless.

30. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 28 wherein
an end cap is disposed at the opposite end of the core and the dividers from
20 the handle and is provided with a peripheral configuration to prevent the user's hair from
being entangled in the rotatable hair brush as the brush rotates.

31. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 30 wherein the end cap at the opposite end of the core is provided with a smooth concave configuration to prevent the user's hair from being entangled as the hair brush rotates.

5 32. (Previously presented) In a combination as set forth in claim 31 wherein the end cap at the opposite end of the core has portions extending over the dividers in a smooth configuration and with the smooth concave configuration of the end cap continuous with the portions of the end cap extending over the dividers.

10 33. (Previously presented) A method of brushing a user's hair, including the steps of:

providing supports for a plurality of dividers spaced from one another in an annular configuration to define a central opening, the supports being provided at the opposite ends of the dividers,

15 providing a core having a plurality of series of openings, each of the plurality of series of openings being spaced in an annular direction from the other ones of the plurality of series of openings,

disposing the core in the central opening defined by the dividers, and

providing for the supports to retain the core in a fixed position in the central opening defined by the dividers.

20 34. (Previously presented) In a method as set forth in claim 33, including the steps of:

providing a handle at one end of the core and the dividers, and

providing an end cap at the opposite end of the core and the dividers with a peripheral configuration to prevent the user's hair from being entangled when the hair brush is rotated.

35. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 33, including the
5 steps of:

providing the handle with a peripheral configuration at one end to prevent the user's hair from being entangled when the handle is attached to the hair brush and the hair brush is rotated, and

attaching the handle to the support.

10 36. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 35 wherein the peripheral configuration of the handle at the one end is smooth and concave to prevent the user's hair from becoming entangled when the hair brush is rotated.

15 37. (Previously presented) A method of brushing a user's hair, including the steps of:

providing a core having a plurality of series of bristles, each series being displaced annularly from the adjacent series around the periphery of the core,

providing in the hair brush a plurality of dividers each disposed outwardly from the periphery of the core between an adjacent pair of series of bristles,

20 supporting the core and the dividers in a fixed relationship to each other, and

providing for the rotatable hair brush a handle which provides a smooth continuous surface with the rotatable portion of the brush to prevent the user's hair from being entangled in the brush during the operation of the brush.

38. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 37 wherein

5 the smooth continuous configuration between the handle and the rotatable portion of the brush is substantially seamless.

39. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 37 wherein

the smooth continuous configuration between the handle and the rotatable portion of the brush is concave.

10 40. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 37 wherein

an end cap is disposed on the brush at the peripheral end of the brush and is provided with a smooth continuous outer configuration to prevent the user's hair from becoming entangled during the brush operation.

41. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 40 wherein

15 the end cap covers the core and the dividers at the outer ends of the core and the dividers and wherein the end cap is substantially seamless relative to the core and the dividers.

42. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 41 wherein

20 the dividers have a smooth continuous peripheral configuration and wherein the end cap has a periphery following the peripheral contour of the dividers and has a smooth continuous concave configuration between the end caps.

43. (Previously presented) A method of brushing a user's hair, including the steps of:

providing a rotatable hair brush,

providing in the brush a plurality or series of bristles, each series being

5 displaced annularly from the adjacent series around the periphery of the core,

providing in the hair brush a plurality of dividers each disposed outwardly from the core between an adjacent pair of series of bristles,

providing a handle for the rotatable hair brush, and

10 providing supports for the core and the dividers at the opposite ends of the core and the dividers.

44. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 43, including the step of:

disposing an end cap on the brush at the outer end of the brush with a smooth continuous peripheral configuration to prevent the user's hair from being
15 entangled in the brush during the operation of the brush.

45. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 44 wherein

the periphery of the end cap extends around the dividers in a configuration corresponding to the configuration of the dividers and extends between the dividers in a configuration continuous with the extension of the periphery of the end cap around the
20 divider.

46. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 43 wherein
the position of the handle adjacent to the core and the dividers is provided
with a concave configuration to prevent the hair strands from becoming entangled in the
brush as the brush rotates.

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PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW CLAIMS:

47. (New) In a combination for use in a rotatable hair brush,
a core having a periphery,
there being pluralities of holes in the core, each of the pluralities of holes
10 being at a spaced position around the core periphery relative to the other pluralities of the
holes,
bristles in the holes in each of the pluralities,
a plurality of dividers disposed at spaced positions around the core
periphery at positions extending outwardly from the core, each of the dividers being
15 disposed between adjacent pairs of pluralities of bristles in the core,
the core and the dividers being disposed in a fixed relationship to one
another at opposite ends of the core and the dividers,
a handle at one of the opposite ends of the core and the dividers,
the handle having a smooth and cratured configuration at the end adjacent the core and
20 the dividers to prevent hair from becoming entangled on the core as the core and the
divider rotate.

48. (New) In a combination as set forth in claim 47 wherein

the cratered configuration of the handle at the end adjacent to the core and the dividers forms a seamless relationship with the core to prevent hair from becoming entangled on the core as the core and dividers rotate.

5 49. (New) In a combination as set forth in claim 47 wherein

the cratered configuration of the handle at the end adjacent to the core and the dividers is smoothly concave to prevent hair from becoming entangled on the core as the core and the dividers rotate.

50. (New) In a combination as set forth in claim 47,

10 an end cap and a collar are disposed on the dividers, at the other end of the dividers from the handle, in a closely fit relationship with the dividers and are provided with a smooth and concave configuration in the positions between adjacent dividers to prevent the user's hair from becoming entangled on the brush as the core and the dividers rotate.

15 51. (New) In a combination as set forth in claim 48 wherein

a support member is provided on the dividers and is provided with a configuration producing a close fit with the dividers and is provided with a smooth concave configuration between the dividers and wherein

20 end caps are disposed on the opposite ends of the core and are provided with a configuration corresponding to that of the support member and wherein

the support member and the end caps are configured to prevent the hair being brushed from becoming entangled on the brush as the brush rotates.